

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:PMAYHEW; FMISCH:CHG

APPROVED BY IO - MR BAKER

P - MR HABIB

S/S - O:LRMACFARLANE

S/P - MR ARMACOST

EA - MR GLEYSTEN

----- 049366

O 080252Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168648

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJECT: KOREA AT THE UNGA - DIRECTION OF FUTURE CORE
GROUP CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 163692; (B) STATE 160566; (C) USUN 2760;
(D) USUN 2664; (E) SEOUL 5106; (F) SEOUL 5110; (G) STATE
165560

1. REFTELS INDICATE NEED FOR FURTHER REFINEMENT OF OUR
POSITIONS ON ISSUES CORE GROUP DISCUSSING, AND ALSO NEED
TO SET OUT WITH ROK AND CORE GROUP COURSE OF LOBBYING
ACTION.

2. FIRSTLY, WE BELIEVE IT USEFUL TO ENCOURAGE CORE GROUP
TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL TACTICAL EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF OUR
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POSITION. SPECIFICALLY, AT SAME TIME AS CORE GROUP REFINES

FRIENDLY RESOLUTION, WE BELIEVE FURTHER EFFORTS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO AVOID CONTENTIOUS CONFRONTATION. WHILE SUCH EFFORTS ARE LIKELY TO BE FRUITLESS FROM SUBSTANTIVE VIEW-POINT, THEY COULD BE OF TACTICAL VALUE, I.E., IF WE SAY WE WISH TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WE NEED TO SHOW WE HAVE MADE ATTEMPTS TO DO SO, AND SUCH ATTEMPTS ARE LIKELY TO HAVE LATER VALUE IN GAINING SUPPORT FOR EVENTUAL FRIENDLY RESOLUTION.

3. WE BELIEVE CORE GROUP SHOULD CONSIDER NEAR-TERM APPROACHES TO BE MADE BY CORE GROUP CONVENERS AND BY REPS OF GROUP MEMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES TO EXPRESS OUR VIEWS AND EXAMINE PROSPECTS FOR AVOIDING CONFRONTATION WHILE SOLICITING VIEWS ON KOREAN QUESTION. WE WOULD ENVISION FOUR ELEMENTS IN THESE APPROACHES TO FRIENDLY AND NON-HOSTILE COUNTRIES: (A) OUR DESIRE TO AVOID CONFRONTATION; (B) NECESSITY, HOWEVER, OF COMBATTING ANY HOSTILE RESOLUTION FROM NORTH KOREA AND ITS SUPPORTERS; (C) A DESCRIPTION OF MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION; AND (D) SOLICITATION OF VIEWS, INCLUDING EFFORTS COUNTRIES WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE IN NAC OR UNGA TO AVOID CONFRONTATION.

4. IN OUR VIEW, APPROACHES TO FRIENDLY AND NON-HOSTILE STATES SHOULD BE MADE TO THOSE COUNTRIES LIKELY TO BE MOST INTERESTED IN AVOIDING ANOTHER STERILE UNGA DEBATE, FOR EXAMPLE, SWEDEN, DENMARK, THE ASEAN COUNTRIES AS WELL AS OTHERS LISTED IN REF E.

∴ WE WOULD EXPECT THAT RESOLUTION CORE GROUP NOW WORKING ON WOULD SERVE AS BASIS FOR APPROACHES TO FRIENDLY AND NON-HOSTILE THIRD COUNTRIES. DRAFT WOULD NOT BE IN FINAL FORM AND WOULD NOT BE GIVEN TO COUNTRIES APPROACHED, BUT WOULD BE ILLUSTRATIVE AS INCLUDING MINIMUM ELEMENTS WE BELIEVE NECESSARY:

--CALL ON SOUTH AND NORTH TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT;

--URGE SOUTH AND NORTH TO RESUME DIALOGUE; AND

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--CALL FOR ARRANGEMENTS AGREED TO BY ALL PARTIES CONCERNED IN PLACE OF ARMISTICE AGREEMENT TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND SECURITY OF KOREA.

6. IN THIS CONNECTION, ROK'S INITIATIVE (REF E) IN DISPATCHING LOBBYING MISSIONS TO NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TIMELY AND WELCOME. EMBASSY SEOUL SHOULD ENCOURAGE ROK TO REPORT DISPATCH OF MISSIONS AT NEXT CORE GROUP MEETING. USUN

SHOULD SUPPORT ROK INITIATIVE IN CORE GROUP, EXPLAIN OUR VIEW THAT FURTHER TACTICAL APPROACHES NECESSARY, AND ATTEMPT TO GAIN CONSENSUS IN SUPPORT OF APPROACHES OUTLINED ABOVE, WHICH COMPLEMENT ROK LOBBYING. USUN SHOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT CORE GROUP CONVENERS BE INSTRUCTED UNDERTAKE APPROACHES ALONG THESE LINES. IN SELECTED COUNTRIES WHERE THERE NO CONVENER, APPROACHES SHOULD BE BY REP OF GROUP MEMBER. APPROACHES BY ROK AND CORE GROUP REPS SHOULD, OF COURSE, BE COORDINATED LOCALLY AS FAR AS

POSSIBLE.

7.

IN AN ATTEMPT TO GET BETTER FIX ON VIEWS OF NORTH KOREA'S STRONGEST SUPPORTERS, ALSO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE TO FOLLOW UP GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S USEFUL CONVERSATIONS WITH ALGERIAN PERMREP WITH ADDITIONAL CONTACTS AT UN AND POSSIBLY WITH APPROACHES TO OTHER HOSTILE COUNTRIES SUCH AS YUGOSLAVIA, SENEGAL, MALI, SOMALIA, AND TANZANIA.

8. ASSUMING THERE IS CORE GROUP SUPPORT FOR SUCH APPROACHES, WE BELIEVE THEY SHOULD INCORPORATE FIRST TWO OF ELEMENTS PARA 3, WITH EMPHASIS ON POINTS THAT PROGRESS ON KOREAN QUESTION CAN ONLY BE MADE THROUGH DIALOGUE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH, AND THAT IT OBVIOUS THAT ATTEMPTS TO RESOLVE PROBLEM WITHOUT PARTICIPATION OF ROK ILLOGICAL AND FRUITLESS. THIRD ELEMENT OF APPROACH TO HOSTILE COUNTRIES WOULD BE SOLICITATION OF VIEWS ON WHETHER AVOIDANCE OF CONFRONTATION POSSIBLE, AND IF SO, HOW IT COULD BE EFFECTED.

9. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF CURRENT GUIDANCE FOR ISSUES BEFORE CORE GROUP:

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A. PRIORITY: RE PARA 2 OF REF F, THE ROKG IS CORRECT THAT WE BELIEVE CONFRONTATION IS PROBABLY INEVITABLE IN UNGA ON KOREA ISSUE. HOWEVER, FONMIN INCORRECT IN ASSUMING THAT WE CONCLUDED THAT WE SHOULD THEREFORE SEEK PRIORITY. OUR VIEWS ON PRIORITY ARE THOSE GIVEN TO CORE GROUP JULY 1 (REF C). AT THIS POINT WE DO NOT REGARD PRIORITY QUESTION AS ONE OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE, AND WE WOULD HOPE TO POSTPONE DECISION ON PRIORITY UNTIL RESULTS OF APPROACHES OUTLINED ABOVE ARE KNOWN. EMBASSY SEOUL MAY EXPLAIN TO ROKG THAT PRINCIPAL REASON WE HAVE NOT PRESSED FOR PRIORITY IS THAT WE AGREE WITH ROK'S RATIONALE PARA 4 REF F.

B. ALTERNATE LANGUAGE TO HOSTILE RESOLUTION AT NAM: AS

REF G INDICATES, WE ARE DUBIOUS OF UNCOORDINATED ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE NAM DECLARATION LANGUAGE ON KOREA. WE BELIEVE PROSPECTS OF AMELIORATING LANGUAGE SO SLIM THAT EFFORT DOES NOT WARRANT MUCH TIME OF CORE GROUP. HOWEVER, IF ISSUE RAISED IN CORE GROUP, WE BELIEVE GROUP SHOULD AGREE THAT IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS PARA 5 ABOVE SHOULD BE OUTLINED, ESPECIALLY FIRST TWO ELEMENTS

C. GENERAL COMMITTEE COMPOSITION: WE NOTE FROM REPORT REF C THAT U.S. REP DID NOT DISCUSS QUESTION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE COMPOSITION ALONG LINES PARA 7 REF B. IN VIEW OF ROK'S UNDERSTANDABLE RETICENCE ON THIS SUBJECT, USUN SHOULD OBTAIN CORE GROUP'S BEST ASSESSMENT ON PROSPECTS FOR COMMITTEE COMPOSITION AT NEXT MEETING.

D. RESOLUTION: WE NOTE THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME CORE GROUP DISCUSSION OF TWO FRIENDLY RESOLUTIONS, ONE IF WE HAVE PRIORITY AND ANOTHER IF WE DO NOT. WE REGARD FORMULATION TWO RESOLUTIONS AS UNNECESSARY. ANY RESOLUTION WE PUT FORWARD SHOULD CONTAIN BASIC ELEMENTS PARA 5 ABOVE. SHOULD WE SEEK PRIORITY AND PUT FORWARD RESOLUTION WITHOUT THESE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS IN ATTEMPT AVOID CONTENTION, RESOLUTION WOULD ONLY HAVE TO BE AMENDED SUBSEQUENTLY TO COUNTER EXPECTED NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION. IN SHORT WE SEE LITTLE NEED FOR TWO DRAFT RESOLUTIONS EXCEPT IN UNLIKELY CONTINGENCY THAT THERE IS PROSPECT OF AVOIDING DEBATE.
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DRAFT RESOLUTION REF C, AS MODIFIED BY REF D, AS NOTED ABOVE, IN OUR VIEW CONTAINS ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. USUN SHOULD TELL CORE GROUP THAT WHILE WE HAVE NOT STUDIED DRAFT IN DETAIL, IT DOES CONTAIN WHAT WE REGARD AS ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF RESOLUTION AND WE BELIEVE IT IS A SUITABLE WORKING DRAFT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS ON IT AND MAY HAVE SOME LANGUAGE CHANGES TO SUGGEST LATER.

E. EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM: DEPARTMENT COMMENTS SEPTTEL.

10. FOR SEOUL: YOU SHOULD TELL FONMIN PARK THAT WE WELCOME LOBBYING EFFORT PROPOSED REF E, AND THAT WE PROPOSE TO COMPLEMENT AND SUPPORT IT WITH APPROACHES OUTLINED ABOVE. YOU MAY ALSO CONVEY ABOVE VIEWS ON DRAFT RESOLUTION. IN REGARD TO FONMIN'S SUGGESTIONS ON "POLITICAL INITIATIVE", YOU MAY TELL HIM THAT WE EXPECT TO REITERATE SEPTEMBER 22 PROPOSALS SOON, WE APPRECIATE POINTS HE HAS SUGGESTED, AND WILL BE CONSIDERING THEM.

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